



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETING

Friday, September 1, 2017
9:30am – 11:30am
David Gebhard Public Meeting Room
630 Garden St.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

Committee Members

James Marston, Chair	Present
Robert Burnham	Present
Martha Degasis	Absent
Karen Johnson	Present (Arrived at 10:00)
Nick Koonce	Present
Ken McLellan	Present
Barbara Silver	Present

City Staff

Mike Wiltshire, Facilities & Energy Manager, ADA Coordinator	Present
Tina Diaz, Accounting Assistant	Present

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Petra Lowen - requested that the Committee look into ADA requirements and enforcement for condos converted into short term rental conversions.
- Will Rehling – Not a resident of Santa Barbara but a representative of “Accessible Santa Barbara” Proposed adding a future agenda item to discuss Valet Parking Ordinance and its ramifications. Committee motioned to include as an agenda item for Nov 10, 2017 meeting. Committee would like Ordinance committee to be made aware there is concern over this ordinance. Motion to put this item on Nov 10, 2017 agenda passed unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES & DISCUSSION OF PENDING ITEMS

a) Approval of Minutes

February 17, 2017 regular meeting minutes approval deferred until revised.
April 14, 2017 special meeting minutes approval deferred until revised.
June 9, 2017 regular meeting minutes approved unanimously.

b) Pending Items

- Parking:
 - B. Silver and N. Koonce would like to see additional information in the existing *Disabled Parking A Brief Guide* to make it more useful and current.
 - Confirmed with Waterfront that those with a disabled placard CAN self-park in the ADA spaces in the Waterfront lot.
- City AAC Website:
 - Committee requested possible updates to City AAC website to include additional information and links
 - Committee made a motion to form a sub-committee to develop additional information or a guide to include on City AAC website. Ad-hoc committee was formed made up of N. Koonce and B. Silver.
 - Ad-hoc committee on AAC Goals & Objectives

- Committee requested to include an update on AAC Goals & Objectives from the previously formed ad-hoc committee.
 - City Sidewalks
 - Confirmed that a discussion on City Sidewalks would be included on the Nov 10, 2017 agenda.
 - R. Burnham confirmed he would have updated material to report on regarding City Sidewalks by next meeting.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS & STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Staff gave update on Library South Entrance project. Project should be complete by mid-Oct.
- Santa Barbara County bi-annual voting accessibility committee meeting. Sept 8, 2017 1:00pm – 4:30pm Louis Lowery Davis Center. Information provided by Independent Learning Resource Center.
- Santa Barbara County has started an appeals board for accessibility complaints. J. Marston is a member of this appeals board.
- N. Koonce mentioned upcoming Building & Fire Code Board of Appeals meeting will be discussing an ADA issue of interest. Encourage committee members to check the agenda of this and future meetings.
- Gentrification of businesses on State Street. J. Marston and R. Burnham gave public comment to Council for business awareness of ADA compliance and accessibility issues. Concerned that business are trying to find ways around ADA compliance due to cost and hardship. City accepted the plan to expedite plan check process for businesses in the downtown area. The aim is not to bypass any required building codes but to streamline the process of plan approval.

6. ENGINEERING PROJECT UPDATES

- Laura Yanez reported on current and completed projects
 - Completed North La Cumbre sidewalk project – Phase I, new ramps on La Cumbre from Via Lucero to Stacy Lane and missing sidewalk filled in
 - Completed Old Coast Highway sidewalk infill and crossing project, new sidewalk and crosswalks near Muni Tennis courts
 - Completed De La Vina street improvements, flashing beacons, access ramps, and streetlight. Committee expressed kudos on this project. Positive feedback.
 - Annual pavement and overlay projects trigger requirement to replace all ramps and curbs in the area of the pavement replacement. This only occurs during overlay when street top is removed/ground down
 - Upcoming Construction
 - Milpas sidewalk infill project, adding new sidewalk near Tri County Produce
 - Cacique and Soledad improvements, pedestrian bridge and new sidewalk
 - Carpinteria and Voluntario intersection design
 - North La Cumbre Sidewalk design – Phase II, new sidewalk and ramps on La Cumbre from Stacey Lane to Pemm Place
- Committee expressed concern with the Foothill / Calle Laureles crossing. The City is aware of concerns with this location but is limited on action as Foothill is a County road.
- Committee asked for an update for future locations for intersection and ramp improvements. Engineering will report on exact locations of future projects at next meeting.
- R. Burnham expressed concern with lack of sidewalk on Laguna between Haley and Gutierrez. Engineering does not currently have a project slated for that location.
- N. Koonce suggested that committee provide input on prioritizing locations for improvements of sidewalks, curbs, etc.
- Public Comment on Item 6
 - Will Rehling (Accessible Santa Barbara) – Suggested giving the AAC more formal input in the planning process for prioritizing ADA engineering projects.

7. BREAK (10:30 – 10:35)

8. ADA GRIEVANCES WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES

- Andrew Stuffer, Chief Building Official spoke and answered questions.
- City is currently experiencing record high construction which increases urgency and anxiety of all permit applications.
- N. Koonce – How can Building Department help enforce valet parking using ADA parking spots?
- Andrew Stuffer – Building Department can only enforce physical changes of ADA parking spots (signage, striping, etc.) and will issue a Notice of Violation and ultimately a citation. Police Department enforces any parking of non-ADA vehicles in ADA spots. City cannot enforce business practices or property owner decisions as these would be Civil issues.
- N. Koonce expressed concern with Police Department improperly handling parking issue at Hotel Indigo. Staff confirmed that this was improperly handled and that the Police Department can and should issue a citation for non-ADA vehicles parked in ADA spots.
- J. Marston – Who enforces blocked path of travel, blocked ADA lifts, locked ADA access, and/or out of order ADA equipment?
- Andrew Stuffer – Anything required by the building code needs to be maintained per building code. Any violations of this nature can be reported to the Building Department. Although, expectations need to be realistic and an understanding that violations that are temporary in nature (boxes on a lift, blocked path of travel) are not realistically enforceable as there is so many of them, they are not permanent in nature, and the Building Department does not have the staffing for this level of enforcement.
- R. Burnham reminded group of using social media (Twitter, Yelp, Google Reviews) to bring attention to ADA violations in local businesses.
- N. Koonce expressed concern with aisle widths in businesses. Andrew Stuffer confirmed that this is an important issue and should be reported to the Building Department as this poses a life safety issue.
- Andrew Stuffer confirmed that the ultimate responsibility of physical changes that result in ADA violations falls upon the property owner as opposed to the tenant. (i.e. lift out of service). County Assessor has information on property ownership.
- M. Wiltshire reviewed access to the City website and where to find information on filing complaints with Building & Safety Department amongst other useful links.
- Ways to contact Building & Safety Department with complaints:
 - Complaint Hotline: (805) 897-2676
 - Email: Request@SantaBarbaraCA.gov
 - In Person: Building counter at 630 Garden
 - Andrew Stuffer mentioned that a written request is a very effective method of submitting a complaint.
- Public Comment on Item 8
 - Will Rehling (Accessible Santa Barbara) – Confirmed that City is able and should enforce California Building Code issues. Confirmed that accessible features need to be maintained. Accessible Santa Barbara is happy to act as middle-man to submit any ADA compliance complaints.

9. OVERVIEW OF CITY PUBLIC BUILDINGS ADA TRANSITION PLAN

- M. Wiltshire presented on ADA upgrades in City Facilities
 - Budget/Funding
 - City receives \$100,000 for ADA facility upgrades and \$100,000 per year for Building Walkways & Pathways (\$200,000 total)
 - Reminder that all permitted city projects do require an ADA component by code
 - Gilda Puentes ADA Transition Plan
 - City leans on this report to guide and prioritize ADA upgrades within Facilities
 - Make Gilda Puentes Transition Plan available to Committee and public
 - ADA deficiencies are corrected to current ADA code
 - Prioritization
 - City is looking to focus on upgrades at City Hall for FY2018
 - M. Wiltshire is the point of contact for prioritizing ADA funds and will take input from AAC to turn these funds into useful projects.
 - Aim to put this item on the agenda annually to touch base on project prioritization

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Friday, November 10, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: If you need auxiliary aids or services or staff assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please contact Access Advisory Committee staff at 564-5583. If possible, notification of at least 72 hours prior to the meeting will usually enable the City to make reasonable arrangements. Specialized services, such as sign language interpretation or documents in Braille, may require additional lead time to arrange.

REPORTS: Minutes and agendas are posted online on the [Access Advisory Committee Website](#)